



## **Introduction**

The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (also known as CITES) is an international agreement under the aegis of the United Nations. Its aim is to ensure that international trade in specimens of endangered wild animals and plants does not threaten their survival in the wild.

More than 35,000 species of plants and animals, as well as their parts and derivatives are protected under the Convention worldwide. Ireland, along with the other Member States of the EU, is a Party to CITES and must abide by the Convention's Resolutions and Decisions. In this context, Ireland implements the EU Wildlife Trade Regulations which give effect to the provisions of the Convention in the EU.

From January 1<sup>st</sup> 2021 importers and exporters moving CITES listed plants, animals or their parts and derivatives will require prior authorisation in order to move CITES listed goods between Ireland and the United Kingdom.

## **Frequently Asked Questions**

### **How do I know if an animal or plant is protected?**

To check if an animal or plant is listed on the Convention on International Trade of Endangered Species (CITES) list you should check on [www.speciesplus.net](http://www.speciesplus.net) – To get the most accurate listing you should use the Latin or scientific name. Please ensure that the spelling is accurate or the system will give a negative result.

### **What documents are required to export to the United Kingdom?**

Specimens listed on EU Annex A and B will require a CITES Export Permit to be issued by the Irish CITES Management Authority and a corresponding CITES Import Permit from the UK CITES Management Authority.

### **What documents are required to Import from the United Kingdom into Ireland?**

Specimens listed on EU Annex A and B will require a CITES Import Permit obtained from the Irish CITES Management Authority. This will only be processed once the importer has been granted a CITES Export Permit from the UK. This export permit should accompany the application to Import the specimen.



### **What if my specimen is listed on EU Annex C or D?**

Species on these listings do not require an import permit from the Irish CITES Management Authority. However, import can only take place if granted a CITES export permit, a (re)-export certificate or a certificate of origin from the country of export which must be presented to the Irish CITES Management Authority prior to any importation taking place.

### **What if my specimen is not listed?**

If you have consulted the species checklist and your specimen is not listed, you will not require a CITES Import/Export Permit. However you may require veterinary approval from the Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine (DAFM) details can be found [here](#).

Queries in relation to non-CITES listed live animal imports can be directed to [livetrade@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:livetrade@agriculture.gov.ie)

Queries in relation to non-CITES listed plant imports and phytosanitary certification can be directed to [plantimports@agriculture.gov.ie](mailto:plantimports@agriculture.gov.ie)

### **What if I want to move my pet?**

If your pet is CITES listed, then a CITES Export/Import will be required.

The Department of Agriculture, Food and the Marine lists “pet” as a dog, cat or ferret that travel with their owner. After 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021, EU rules on pet travel into the EU from non-EU countries will apply to pet travel from the island of Great Britain. It is important for pet owners resident in Ireland to be aware of this, as these rules will apply to a pet returning from GB to Ireland, even if the pet was born and is resident in Ireland, and has an EU pet passport.

Further information on the movement of non-CITES listed pets and pet passports can be found at <https://www.agriculture.gov.ie/pets/>

### **What are the derogations on personal and household effects?**

*Article 7(3) of Regulation (EC) No 338/97 provides for derogations for introduction and (re-) export of certain specimens being personal or household effects. Where the relevant conditions are met, these derogations will apply to movements of personal and household effects between the United Kingdom and the EU after the end of the transition period.*



Personal and household effects only applies to specimens comprising/made of dead animals or plants. To qualify as personal effects, the goods must be carried on the person, or contained in personal luggage of the traveller.

The derogation for personal and household effects only applies to certain imports, exports and (re)-exports or specimens of species listed in the Annexes. For example, the derogation does not apply to exports of specimens of Annex A or B listed species, to the first import of specimens of Annex A-listed species by EU Residents or to the first import of hunting trophies of certain Annex B-listed species/populations by EU residents. Therefore normal documentation requirements will apply in these cases.

In addition, specific requirements apply to the movement of rhino horn and elephant ivory contained in personal and household effects.

### **Is my EC Trade Certificate (Article 10) valid to move my specimen to the UK?**

An EC Trade Certificate (Article 10) is only valid within the European Union. You will require a CITES Export permit to move the specimen to the UK. [*When applying, the original article 10 certificate should accompany your application to prove legal acquisition*]

### **What if my EC Trade Certificate (Article 10) was issued by the UK?**

UK issued EC Trade Certificates (Article 10) will cease to be valid for trade within the EU from the 1<sup>st</sup> January 2021. Holders of UK issued EC Trade Certificates can contact the Irish CITES Management Authority and look for replacement Irish Certificates and the original UK issued Article 10 can be used as proof of legal acquisition. A UK EC Trade Certificate is still valid for the holder of the specimen and will only need to be replaced if the owner plans to sell or use the specimen commercially.

Under Council Regulation 338/97 Article 8(1) commercial activities are defined as:

*“the purchase, offer to purchase, acquisition for commercial purposes, display to the public for commercial purposes, use for commercial gain and sale, keeping for sale, offering for sale or transporting for sale of specimens”*. In addition sale is defined as *“sale shall mean any form of sale”*. For the purposes of this Regulation, hire, barter or exchange shall also be regarded as sale.

### **How will Brexit effect my business?**

The Department of Enterprise, Trade and Employment has produced the Brexit Readiness Checklist which lists the steps businesses can take now to get ready for the changes Brexit will bring from 1 January 2021. Further information can be found on their website: <https://enterprise.gov.ie/Brexit>